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ATTACHMENT A

27 September 1960

MEMO FOR THE RECORD

25X1A

25X1A9a

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] Debriefing 20 September 1960

25X1A9a

1. [REDACTED] visited our office 20 September to discuss his [REDACTED] 25X1A6a tour (6 months). We discussed a few of the points concerning living conditions, changes on the [REDACTED] his medical problem and his job as an interpreter. I also arranged for Ralph to meet and talk with [REDACTED] 25X1A9a concerning Dave's "Use of Interpreters" paper.

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2. Ralph spent most of his six months on TDY [REDACTED] and his main comments were concerning these trips. Out of six months of almost constant interpreting, he said only 20 hours were pre-prepared; that is, where he was given opportunity to see the lesson plan or lesson outline prior to the instruction. The major portion of his interpreting was without adequate briefing and was given "off the top of his head."

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3. When asked about [REDACTED] project Ralph commented as follows: He feels that [REDACTED] French was inadequate for the task. At the time of the [REDACTED] TDY training, Ralph received an hour and a half's notice to be ready to depart to replace [REDACTED] 25X1A9a He asked the [REDACTED] A&E Staff if they had an outline of the course, but apparently they had nothing. He reported to [REDACTED] and went to work 25X1A6a immediately interpreting basic tradecraft. Three days later the instructors commented that things were going very well. At noon the same day they informed Ralph that during the afternoon they were going into [REDACTED] the first Ralph had even heard that it was included in the course. The same thing occurred for Map Reading, Photography and one other technical subject which Ralph failed to recollect. He was not aware that any of these subjects were included in the course until just prior to class.

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4. I asked Ralph why he hadn't examined the schedule. Ralph stated that for two instructors and himself there was only one copy of the class schedule which he never saw. The day before the final exam the two instructors began writing the exam, and finished it by late evening. Ralph spent "half the night" translating the exam so it would be ready for the class the next morning.

5. The schedule was rough for him, he said, since he had to interpret full-time while the instructors alternated. He also stated that when still at Headquarters he had asked [REDACTED] when LAS was going to test him. Jack informed him, and [REDACTED] that there was no testing for prospective interpreters.

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6. Ralph's main criticism was the lack of planning and briefing, especially for the interpreters. Interpreters were required most of the time to appear and interpret without any prior preparation or briefing. In subjects such as narcotics, [REDACTED] photography and map reading the technical terms should have been known beforehand. The instructor had notes; the interpreter had only memory.

[REDACTED]

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